

Sermon Discussion Questions | July 9, 2017

The Redeeming Power of Work

Ruth 2

1. Pastor Jim started his message by pointing us to the fact that the world has a different view of work than what God does. As you sat and listened, what would you say your view of work is? Where and how did you develop that view?
2. The first thing we learned about God's view of work was that it dignifies. He used the example of Boaz from our text as the example. What was it about him and his story that demonstrated how work provides dignity?
3. In looking at Ruth herself, we find the second value to work: it allows us to provide for ourselves. Read 2 Thessalonians 3:10-12 and spend sometime thinking through and discussing how this may play out in our context. What are some healthy and unhealthy ways of looking at a passage like this?
4. In Ruth 4, we find the third and final value of work and it is through the character of Naomi. Have someone in group read Ruth 4:16-17. What is Naomi doing? How does it line up with what Paul says in Acts 20:34-35 and Ephesians 4:20? What was the third value of work then?
5. Work allows us to share with those in need. This is why Jesus said that it is more blessed to give than to receive. Have you found this to be true? Take a moment and share some stories in which you have been blessed by the work of another. Maybe you've been able to bless someone else through your work?
6. Pastor Jim closed by stating again that work is a gift, a blessing, from God. How does this challenge you in your own career or your own life? If work is a blessing by providing dignity, allowing us to provide for ourselves and to share/be a blessing to others- how will your outlook and approach to work change? What may God be challenging you or encouraging you to this week? Take some time to share, pray and encourage one another.